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LETTER DATED 15 NOVEMBER 1996 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

In the addendum of 12 November 1996 to my report of 1 October 1996 to the Security Council (S/1996/813/Add.1), I recommended that the mandate of the United Nations Support Mission in Haiti (UNSMIH) be renewed until 30 June 1997 if the Government of Haiti requested an extension. I subsequently received from President Préval the attached letter, dated 13 November 1996. In this letter, President Préval notes that, according to current estimates, it would take eight to twelve months for the Haitian National Police to be able to ensure a secure and stable environment and requests me to convey to the Council his wish that UNSMIH's mandate be extended.

In these circumstances I confirm my recommendation that the mandate be extended until 30 June 1997 but will be ready to submit a report on the progress of UNSMIH's efforts before the end of the mandate thus extended, if the Council so wishes.

I should be grateful if you would bring this matter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) Boutros BOUTROS-GHALI

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Annex

[Original: French]

Letter dated 13 November 1996 from the President of Haiti addressed to the Secretary-General

The United Nations Support Mission in Haiti (UNSMIH) has enabled significant progress to be made towards ensuring security and stability, thanks to the assistance it has provided, in particular, to the Haitian National Police.

However, after 30 November 1996, the international community's assistance in the area of public security will remain necessary to the Haitian Government. It will allow the National Police to become stronger and to reach a satisfactory level of effectiveness. According to estimates by the Government and UNSMIH experts, it would take eight to twelve months for the Haitian National Police to be able to ensure a secure and stable environment.

In this context, it would be extremely desirable for the UNSMIH mandate to be extended. Therefore, I should be grateful if you would transmit this request to the United Nations Security Council.

(Signed) René PRÉVAL